

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

*Please amend the specification as follows:*

[0038] FIG. 2 illustrates that a position of a laparoscopic opening 22 in the body wall 11 may be readily relocated by lifting up a piercing retractor 23 to various directions according to the present invention. Thus, an exposure of the surgical area maybe maximized through the minilaparotomy opening 22, so that it provides the operator with a higher degree of freedom in the operative procedure.